

FRIENDS OF PATAGONIA LIBRARY

346 Duquesne Ave. Patagonia, AZ 85624 - 520-394-2010 - www.patagoniapubliclibrary.org



WHAT'S INSIDE:

A Message from Kate Peake, President

“What in the world would we do without our libraries?” – Katharine Hepburn

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Nowhere may that be truer than here in Patagonia, AZ. Last year, 4,730 people attended library programs and patrons circulated nearly 20,000 materials. Under the new leadership of Laura Wenzel, Library Director, the Patagonia Library has added even more innovative programming and diverse materials to keep the library meaningful for all age groups, from an online media streaming platform to coding and temporary tattoo workshops to eye-catching book displays. This is an amazing amount of work to pull off for a staff of three, with a limited budget, and a small group of dedicated volunteers. Our town is truly fortunate to have such an energetic, dedicated and innovative library staff. All of this is only made possible with your support.

We are continually in awe of our volunteers going the extra step to make our library efforts special, from organizing the Friends of the Library book shed and helping at the circulation desk to restocking the Little Free Libraries around town. We hope you are able to join us in 2020. Please contact the library to add your name to our volunteer list; make a financial donation today online, at the library, or by mail; donate your gently used books for our annual book sales; or buy a ticket to one of our upcoming events. I look forward to sharing book recommendations when I see you at the next library event. Happy reading in 2020!



Director's Note

Written by Laura Wenzel

Patagonia Public Library is a remarkable place. Perhaps I'm biased, but I was lucky enough to stumble upon the library years ago at a crossroads in my life. I had no idea that I would work there one day, let alone become director.

As director, my vision for the library is to understand the needs of the community, create a welcoming environment for people of all ages, be innovative and inspire curiosity. I'm proud of the things that we have accomplished this year, such as serving nearly 1,450 free lunches this summer to children aged 18 and under, the completion of the LSTA StoryWalk® grant in Patagonia's town park and the addition of Kanopy free movie streaming service. We also secured a grant and donor funds from Mr. John Kendall for a Cady Hall Roof Restoration project. Currently, I'm anticipating what the future may hold: a Makerspace, coding and Lego clubs, virtual reality programs, and, potentially, e-books.

I'm also very proud of our staff. It seems particularly remarkable that our entire library staff is under the age of 35. We are energized, motivated, and look forward to tackling new ideas and challenges head on.



Meet Caitlyn

Written by Caitlyn Coleman

I am no stranger to the Sonoita/Patagonia/Elgin community, having lived in Sonoita for most of my life. I attended Elgin Elementary School and graduated from Patagonia Union High School in 2012. After high school, I graduated from the University of Alaska Fairbanks with a bachelor's degree in Communication and I plan to get my master's degree in school counseling, as well as continuing my love of art in the form of art therapy.

When not at the library, I work at PYEC as a mentor, helping to ensure that the youth of Patagonia have a safe place to socialize, learn to cook, create art, and do homework, as well as making sure that these amazing kids have a fair shot at life.

Since working at the library, I have learned the art of shelving, covering and taping books, politely arguing with a sometimes-stubborn copier and much more. My colleagues are helpful and supportive, and the volunteers are some of the greatest people I have ever met. I have been welcomed with open arms and have grown so much. Thank you all for making the library a home away from home!

FALL FUNDRAISER: AN EVENING WITH TODD MILLER

Join us at a private residence on Saturday, November 23rd from 4:30-7:00 pm for an informative evening with Tucson-based journalist and writer, Todd Miller, who will present his new book, "Empire of Borders: The Expansion of the US Border Around the World."
 Tickets \$50 at the library. Beer, wine, hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

Conference Musings

Written by Shannon Wright

This year's national conference for the Association for Rural and Small Libraries took place in the beautiful city of Burlington. Daily sessions ensured there was always somewhere to be and something to learn, but at a pace that allowed time for attendees to breathe between. Presentations ranged from dry and procedural, like "Libraries and the 2020 Census," to the whimsical and adventurous, such as "Did slamming your head against the wall help?"

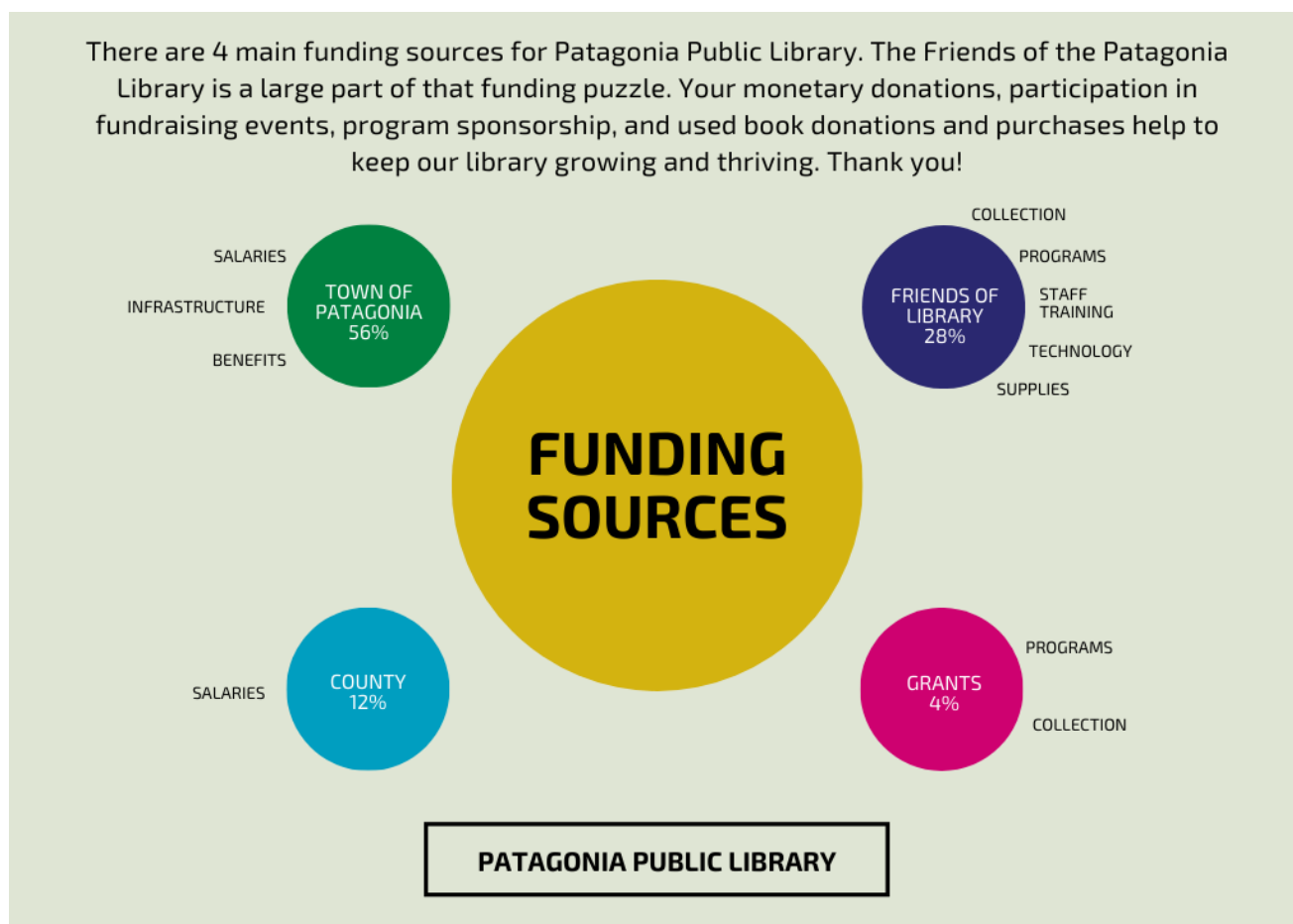
A personal favorite was "Owning Your Brand: Marketing on a Budget," where the steps and expenses involved in the re-branding and graphic design process of a rural library were organized and expounded. Many presenters held multiple sessions throughout the week, guaranteeing no one missed the presentation they wanted to attend due to the boring one the responsible adult in them felt they probably should. Overall, the conference was an enriching experience, and we can't wait to apply the lessons we learned in Vermont here in our community.

The Library, Then and Now

Written by Sue Baz

This past Spring, Friends of the Library hosted an Open House to celebrate Patagonia Public Library on receiving national recognition as one of the best small libraries in America. It was also the perfect opportunity to honor the staff and give heartfelt thanks and warm wishes to Abbie Zeltzer, upon her retirement.

Shannon created a slide show which illustrated the remarkable transformation of the library through the years. Many of you may not be aware that the Library was once the Patagonia Hotel. As such, the Library is the oldest public space in Patagonia. The Patagonia Women's Club opened the Library in 1957, deeded Cady Hall to the Town in 1989, and a restoration committee was formed in 1990 to renovate the building. Library users began to use the newly expanded space in 1996. In 2006, the Town Council approved a project to design a garden. With money from the Arizona Commission on the Arts two hand-wrought gates were created. Restoration Committee and Friends funds were used to construct a fence and wall, resulting in what is now the Legacy Garden.



Thank you to our generous donors, program sponsors, and dedicated volunteers

Abbie Zeltzer
 Arizona Native Plant Society
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 Susan and Cullen Crabbe
 Suzannah Herron
 Thomas Arny
 Tom Cook
 Toni Dorfman and John Gaddis

And anyone that we inadvertently missed. Thank you!

Donations made in memory of:

**Barbara Kurtz
 Cecie and Paul Dry
 Charlotte (CiCi) Finley
 Don Simmons
 Jill Babcock
 Paul Finley**

**In memory of Henry Krzys,
 the Friends of Patagonia
 Library will purchase
 children's books in his name.**

